

Masanori HIRANO, S.N. 10/517,356  
Page 14

Dkt. 2271/73321

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 1, 2008. Claims 1-38 are pending. The Office Action indicates that claims 9-13 and 29-33 have been allowed. By this Amendment, claims 1-8, 14-28 and 34-38 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter, without narrowing a scope of the claims. Accordingly, claims 1-8, 14-28 and 34-38 are presented for reconsideration, with claims 1 and 19 being in independent form.

Claims 5-8, 14-18, 24-28 and 34-38 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as purportedly in independent form. Claims 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Claims 1-4 and 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In response, the claims have been carefully reviewed and amended with particular attention to the points raised in the Office Action.

Withdrawal of the objection to the claims, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 is requested.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's statement in the Office Action of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter and submits that the pending claims recite subject matter which further supports patentability for reasons in addition to those identified in the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the Office Action.

In view of the amendments to the claims and remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any

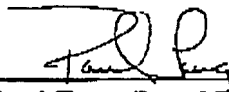
Masanori HIRANO, S.N. 10/517,356  
Page 15

Dkt. 2271/73321

fees that are required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our  
Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner  
is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837  
Attorney for Applicant  
Cooper & Dunham LLP  
Tel.: (212) 278-0400